

A. Claim Amendments

Claims 1-3 (canceled, without prejudice or disclaimer)

4. (Currently Amended) A method of treating rheumatoid arthritis by modulating the reactivity of lymphocytes associated with said disease, comprising the step of administering a pharmaceutical composition comprising an effective amount of HC gp-39 or fragments thereof, wherein said fragments are selected from one or more of SEQ ID NO:1(FGRSFTLAS), SEQ ID NO:2(FTLASSETG), SEQ ID NO:3(YDDQESVKS), SEQ ID NO:4(FSKIASNTQ), SEQ ID NO:5(PTFGRSFTLASSE), SEQ ID NO:6(RSFTLASSETGVG), SEQ ID NO:7(VGYDDQESVKSKV), and SEQ ID NO:8(SQRFSKIASNTQSR), and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein said lymphocytes are reactive to antigens other than HC gp-39 which are present in the same tissue as HC gp-39.

5. (Canceled, without prejudice or disclaimer)

6. (Currently amended) The method of claim 5, wherein said fragments are selected from one or more of SEQ ID NO:5(PTFGRSFTLASSE), SEQ ID NO:6([PTFGRSFTLASSETGVG]RSFTLASSETGVG), SEQ ID NO:7(VGYDDQESVKSKV), and SEQ ID NO:8(SQRFSKIASNTQSR).

Claims 7-9 (cancelled, without prejudice or disclaimer)

10. (Currently amended) A method for modulating the reactivity of lymphocytes that are reactive to antigens other than HC gp-39 which are present in the same tissue as HC gp-39, comprising the step of administering a pharmaceutical composition comprising an effective amount of HC gp-39 or fragments thereof, wherein said fragments are selected

from one or more of SEQ ID NO:1(FGRSFTLAS), SEQ ID NO:2(FTLASSETG), SEQ ID NO:3(YDDQESVKS), SEQ ID NO:4(FSKIASNTQ), SEQ ID NO:5(PTFGRSFTLASSE), SEQ ID NO:6(RSFTLASSETGVG), SEQ ID NO:7(VGYDDQESVKSKV), and SEQ ID NO:8(SQRFSKIASNTQSR), and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, whereby the reactivity of said lymphocytes is modulated.

11. (canceled, without prejudice or disclaimer)

12. (Currently amended) The method of claim 5, wherein said fragments are selected from one or more of SEQ ID NO:5 (PTFGRSFTLASSE), SEQ ID NO:6([PTFGRSFTLASSETGVG]RSFTLASSETGVG), SEQ ID NO:7(VGYDDQESVKSKV), and SEQ ID NO:8(SQRFSKIASNTQSR).

Claims 13-15 (cancelled, without prejudice or disclaimer)

16. (Currently amended) A method of treating an autoimmune disease by modulating the reactivity of lymphocytes associated with said disease, comprising the step of administering a pharmaceutical composition comprising an effective amount of HC gp-39 or fragments thereof, wherein said fragments are selected from one or more of SEQ ID NO:1(FGRSFTLAS), SEQ ID NO:2(FTLASSETG), SEQ ID NO:3(YDDQESVKS), SEQ ID NO:4(FSKIASNTQ), SEQ ID NO:5(PTFGRSFTLASSE), SEQ ID NO:6(RSFTLASSETGVG), SEQ ID NO:7(VGYDDQESVKSKV), and SEQ ID NO:8(SQRFSKIASNTQSR), and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein said lymphocytes are reactive to antigens other than HC gp-39 which are present in the same tissue as HC gp-39.